

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-24, and 31-36 remain pending in the application.

Reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the pending application in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Official Action claims 1-9, 11-24 and 31-36 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of copending Application No. 10/241,706. This rejection is moot.

In response, although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the provisional rejection of claims 1-9, 11-24, and 31-36 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting, nevertheless, Applicant has submitted herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in order to expedite prosecution of the present application. Accordingly, it is believed that the provisional rejection of claims 1-9, 11-24, and 31-36 is now moot.

It is respectfully requested, therefore, that the provisional rejection of claims 1-9, 11-24, and 31-36 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting be withdrawn and that an early indication of the allowance thereof be given.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

P24070.A06

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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Attachment: Terminal Disclaimer

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